MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

15 JULY 1981

Lebanese Crisis

Israeli Air Attacks--Damascus television reported that a Syrian plane was hit when Syrian aircraft attempted to intercept Israeli planes bombing Palestinian targets in southern Lebanon on 14 July. According to Jerusalem radio, the Syrian MiG-23 was downed shortly after the dogfight began and crashed 45 km south of Beirut. The radio said the Israeli planes were attacking Palestinian bases in the coastal sector north of Sidon and northeast of An-Nabatiyah. It added that the Israeli planes returned safely to base, with the pilots reporting precise hits on their targets. The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio, however, reported that an Israeli plane was hit by ground fire and fell near Sidon. According to Beirut radio, 10 people were killed and about 30 others were wounded in the successive Israeli air attacks throughout the afternoon and early evening. The Voice of Palestine also reported that Israeli gunboats exchanged fire with Palestinian shore batteries near Sidon.

Commenting on the latest Israeli air raids in an interview broadcast by Jerusalem television, Israeli Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan said Israel is continuing its policy of preemptive attacks on the Palestinians to prevent them from organizing and to destroy new equipment they have received from Libya, Syria and the Soviet Union, including rocket launchers and modern tanks. The Damascus daily TISHRIN, reviewed by Damascus radio, accused the United States of encouraging Israel to carry out its latest air attacks in Lebanon so as to put pressure on Syria and as a preliminary to possible U.S. proposals and demands. TISHRIN warned that Syria will not be pressured into changing its stand and that attempts to lure it into a trap or into a battle whose location, time and weapons would be determined by Israel will fail.

Soviet Ambassador's Remarks--Beirut radio reported that after his meeting with Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, Soviet Ambassador Aleksandr Soldatov said that because of its opposition to U.S. support for Israel, the Soviet Union cannot coordinate with the United States over Lebanon. The radio later quoted Soldatov as calling for a solution to the Lebanese problem within the framework of the Soviet Union's proposal for an international conference on the Middle East aimed at securing the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Arab territories occupied after 1967, a conference involving the PLO as the sole legal representative of the Palestinians and leading to the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. Soldatov stressed that there is no European initiative similar to the Soviet Union's proposal.

Israel

Jerusalem television reported that the military governor of Rafah was killed in an explosion north of the Rafah intersection. Two IDF soldiers and three Israeli policemen were injured in the incident. A Voice of Palestine report said Palestinian revolution forces were responsible for the explosion, which was a response to Israeli Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipori's recent assertion that Israel has managed to stop Palestinian operations in Israel.

Libyan Invasion Claim

Jerusalem radio reported that an Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman ridiculed Libyan claims that Israel and Egypt are planning a joint attack on Libya. According to Cairo radio, Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said Libya's allegation reflects the rejection front's "standard of mentality and comprehension" and is an attempt to divert attention from the Palestinian cause. MENA cited AL-JUMHURIYAH as saying that Egypt has enough to do to build peace and prosperity at home and in the region and has no time to contemplate the overthrow of Libyan leader Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, which is the duty of the Libyan people alone.

Syria-Algeria

Algiers radio reported that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad left Algeria on 14 July after a short visit in which he held three rounds of talks with Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. According to Damascus television, Al-Asad made a predeparture statement in which he said that his talks with Bendjedid had focused on the need to confront the "imperialist onslaught" in the Middle East and that he was very happy and completely satisfied with them.

Iran

Human Rights Issue--Tehran radio reported that in response to a letter from the chairman of a commission on human rights protesting the execution of "hundreds" of people in Iran without fair and public trial, the Public Relations Office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs denied the allegations and asserted that Iran will continue its revolution and move in the direction of a true government of the oppressed. The Foreign Ministry questioned whether the commission had ever protested the executions or violations of human rights taking place in Israel, Iraq, New York, Latin America or the United Kingdom, and said it is suspicious about the commission's links with U.S. imperialism.

Rafsanjani Interview--In an interview broadcast by Tehran radio, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said the new law on political parties allows any group that wishes to engage in "healthy activities" to do so within the framework of the Constitution. He explained that if people are unbiased, they will have no reason to engage in illegal, underground or secret activities. Questioned on when the new president will assume office after the election, Rafsanjani said the Provisional Presidential Council will continue to be in charge until the elected person is confirmed by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni.

Executions, Arrests, Violence--According to AFP, two Tehran bazaar merchants were executed for "counterrevolutionary and subversive activities." AFP noted that this has been interpreted as an extension of the regime's crackdown on the leftist opposition to include nationalist groupings as well. Meanwhile, Tehran radio reported that 135 leftists, including Mohahedin-e Khalq supporters, have been arrested in Kermanshah. AFP, citing ETTELA'AT, reported that two Islamic Republican Party office buildings in suburban Tehran were attacked with Molotov cocktails on 13 July. Tehran radio reported that dozens of "illegally armed elements" were killed or wounded during mopping-up operations carried out by government forces near Sar Dasht in Western Azarbayjan.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

According to Tehran radio, 59 Iraqi soldiers were killed in recent clashes on the Sumar and Gilan-e Gharb fronts. It also said Iraqi aircraft entered Iranian airspace over Sar Dasht on a bombing mission but were forced to flee before they could attack the Allaho Akbar heights. An armed forces communique, carried by Tehran radio, claimed that Iranian forces repulsed an offensive by the Iraqi Army in the Susangerd region, capturing 11 Iraqi servicemen and killing about 40 others. The communique also said some of the Abadan oil installations were damaged by Iraqi artillery and long-range-weapon fire. An Iraqi Armed Forces General Command communique, carried by INA, asserted that 48 Iranian soldiers were killed in the Ahvaz region and detailed minor Iranian losses on other fronts.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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FOUR DIE IN HYDERABAD VIOLENCE; CURFEW IMPOSED

BK141515 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 14 Jul 81

[Text] One person died of police firing and three others died of stab injuries in the old city area of Hyderabad last evening. Night curfew was imposed in the entire old city and some adjoining areas. The city police commissioner told the All India Radio Hyderabad correspondent this morning that no incident was reported during the night. Over 100 persons have been taken into custody. The situation is now stated to be under control.

Appeal for Calm

BK141517 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 14 Jul 81

[Text] Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister T. Anjaiah today called upon the people to cooperate in maintaining peace and harmony in the disturbed areas of Hyderabad city.

Talking to newsmen, the chief minister said that all those who were involved directly or indirectly in these disturbances would be dealt with firmly, howsoever higher position they may hold.

State Home Minister Jagganath Rao said that a battalion of the central reserve police has been inducted into the disturbed areas to strengthen security arrangements. Fifty police vehicles have been deployed to patrol the disturbed areas.

City Police Commissioner C.C. Saldhana told newsmen tonight that the situation is well under control after imposition of indefinite curfew in 19 police station areas in the old city.

He said that seven persons died of stab injuries today in different parts of the old city. Seven persons including two members of the legislative assembly of the Majlis-Ittehad-Ul-Muslimeen and leaders of the Bhartiya Janata Party were arrested under the National Security Act. Besides, 250 antisocial elements were rounded up, he added.

NEW RAJASTHAN CHIEF MINISTER SWORN IN 14 JUL

BK141319 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 14 Jul 81

[Text] Shivcharan Mathur has been sworn in as the new chief minister of Rajasthan. The oath of office and secrecy was administered by Governor Raghukul Tilak at a brief ceremony held at the Raj Bhavan [governor's residence] in Jaipur today. Amongst those who attended the function was Vidhan Sabha [assembly] speaker (Poonam Chand Vishanoi), outgoing Chief Minister Jagannath Pahadia and a large number of MLA's and MP's of various political parties.

Earlier, Mathur was unanimously elected the leader of the State Congress-I Legislature Party. Shivcharan Mathur succeeds Pahadia who resigned as chief minister last Saturday. He represents the Mandalgarh constituency in Bhilwara district. He was the agriculture minister in the congress ministry headed by Harideo Joshi.

MUSAVI REPLY TO HUMAN RIGHTS APPEAL ON EXECUTIONS

LD141950 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 14 Jul 81

[Text] According to the News Bureau, Mr (J. Shestack), chairman of the international commission on human rights [as heard], sent a letter to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs protesting the trial and execution of counterrevolutionaries. The text of the letter is as follows:

Mr Musavi, the foreign minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Tehran:

Your Excellency, the international commission on human rights, a nongovernmental organization affiliated with the United Nations, sees dangers in the execution of hundreds of people in Iran in violation of internationally recognized human rights and calls upon the Iranian Government to take immediate action to end executions before trial and to allow time for appeal. This commission protests the lack of fair and public trial by independent tribunals for all the accused. This commission demands that all those arrested for political opposition to the government should be receive clemency on the basis of humanity.

In reply to the objection of the commission chairman to the execution of counterrevolutionaries, the following letter was released by the Public Relations Office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

In His exalted name. We received your telegram [as heard] in defense of murderers who, in connection with America and other superpowers, wage armed attack against the people in the streets and who, with only one bomb, martyred 75 of our country's Muslim and revolutionary statesmen. We doubt whether:

1. Has the commission protested to Israel about the massacre of Kafar Qasim and Dayr Yasin [Israel and Palestine] or not? And has it sent the Israelis this kind of letter too?

2. Has the commission ever protested to Israel about the rough conditions in the prisons of that country, and torture and killing of our Arab brothers?

3. Has the commission protested to the Iraqi Government about the tragic martyrdom of Ayatollah Sadr and his innocent sister in Saddam Husayn's prisons?

4. Has the commission protested the violation of black peoples' rights, which takes place in New York itself, the city where the headquarters of the United Nations is situated?

5. Has the commission protested the terrifying murders and massacres committed in El Salvador and other Latin American countries with the help of the United States?

6. Has the commission sent a letter to the British Government protesting the inhumane and savage pressure on Irish patriots?

There are other questions which leave doubt and suspicion in our minds about the existence of the commission and make us suspicious about whether the commission serves the interests and ambition of U.S. imperialism. We hope it is not so.

We regret very much that the commission is looking at the world through America's window. If this were not the case, and if this commission could see the world the way the world's oppressed see it and not through the eyes of the arrogant, then surely this commission would have spoken on our behalf. Surely it would talk about our complaints, would have issued an indictment against world arrogance--with America as its head--and would have not kept quiet about America's open aggression in Tabas. Were not the rights of our nation violated during this aggression?

In conclusion, the commission chairman, (J. Shestack), is asked the following: What should the government, which is supported by millions of our Muslim subjects, do with regard to the United States and the minigroups when it is attacked, and when these minigroups--connected with America--launch sabotage, kill 74 people in only 1 day, and murder around 30 people by knife in a tragic manner during a street attack? We hope your answer will not be to give them advice.

Finally, we strongly deny the allegations that hundreds have been executed. We do confirm that the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran is determined, with all its power and without paying any attention to the judgment of East and West, to continue its revolution and to move in the direction of the true government of the oppressed.

[Signed] The Public Relations Office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran

REPORTAGE ON ARRESTS, ACTS OF SABOTAGE, EXECUTIONS

Literature Confiscated

LD150530 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 14 Jul 81

[Text] According to the Central News Bureau, one of responsible officials of the Public Relations Office of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Babol announced: During the past 2 days, thanks to the cooperation of the people, one communal house [khaneh-ye timi] in Babol's Eram District, together with 5,000 publications belonging to the hypocrites organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq] which were ready for distribution, was discovered, and 9 persons were arrested in this connection.

In addition, a printing center of leftwing and Peykar groups was discovered in a building adjacent to the gas station on Taleqani Street in Babol, and large quantities of printing equipment, paint, stencil paper, books and printing machines were discovered and confiscated.

135 Arrests in Kermanshah

LD142008 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 14 Jul 81

[Text] According to a PARS report in connection with the activities of minigroups in the recent events in the country, thus far 135 persons have been arrested in Kermanshah. The Islamic revolution prosecutor in Kermanshah while announcing this report added: The arrest of 135 members of the minigroups and hypocrites has been carried out with the cooperation of the people and the endeavors of the guards corps and the committees. The prosecutor also asked the people to increase their efforts toward identifying counterrevolutionaries.

Shops Set Ablaze

LD150854 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 15 Jul 81

[Text] According to PARS, the spokesman of the sixth headquarters of the ninth district committee [as heard] has announced: Between 1900 and 1930 last night, two grenades and one Molotov cocktail were thrown by two persons on a motorbike at an exhibition tent near Tehran University. One of the grenades caused a small fire, which was quickly brought under control by the brother guards. The other grenade did not explode and fell intact into the hands of the brother guards.

According to this report, the two persons on the motorbike opened fire on the people with a Kalashnikov rifle, but fortunately there was no loss of life.

According to this report, a furniture shop on Vali-ye 'Asr Street, adjacent to the Shahr-e Farang Cinema was set on fire by a Molotov cocktail; some damage was caused. The fire was immediately brought under control by the fire-fighting officers.

Bookstore Burned

GF141414 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 14 Jul 81

[Text] The bought slaves of imperialism once more have set fire to copies of the Koran of Resalat bookstore in the heroic city of Ahvaz. The Central News bureau correspondent, in touch with an official of this bookstore, reports that a Peykar minigroup had threatened the bookstore's staff with death and that at 1930 on 12 July 1981 set fire to the bookstore with explosives. As a result, about 40 copies of the Koran, a number of Nahj-ol Balagheh and other Islamic books, including Professor Motahhari's books, were burned.

'Armed Elements' Killed

LD141342 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 14 Jul 81

[Text] According to the Central News Bureau, the Western Azarbayjan govenor general's Public Relations Office reported the following: During mopping-up operations in Marvan, near Sar Dasht, carried out last night with the cooperation of the army, guards corps and the gendarmerie, a clash occurred, during which dozens of illegally armed elements were killed and wounded.

During this clash, the commander of the Sar Dasht guards corps and the guardsmen were martyred and three were injured.

Attack on Guards Tent

GF141422 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 14 Jul 81

[Text] A group of patriots last night attacked a tent belonging to revolution guards, used for the distribution and sale of the regime's propaganda publications, on Shahreza Avenue and set it on fire, forcing the guards to flee. We see this form of struggle daily in all cities and towns of Iran. Hail to the patriots of the ancient land of Iran who have risen to fight with empty hands. Yesterday several cinemas and government reading rooms [qara'at khaneh] were set on fire by the patriots in Tehran.

Radio Iran on Executions

NC142247 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 14 Jul 81

[Text] A member of the National Resistance Movement of Iran [NMRI] has been executed by Khomeyni's mercenary executioners. Seyyed Yar Morad Shah-Ebrahimi, patriot and freedom fighter and a member of the NRMI who had devoted his life and being for the country's salvation and the establishment of democracy, was condemned to death on charges of his love for Iran. This freedom fighter's death sentence was carried out yesterday.

Other reports on the regime's pitiless executions and killings also state that during the past 24 hours, 28 more of Khomeyni's prisoners were murdered. These reports state that most of the recent executions are of innocent people and that the regime's motives in killing these prisoners is merely to terrify the people and combatants who have intensified their armed rebellion against the regime. The regime thinks that by executing innocent people the combatants will be terrified by these crushing measures and will stop their struggles for Iran's freedom.

Reports from reliable sources state that combatant organizations and armed groups will possibly start a vast country-wide rebellion on the day the presidential elections are to be held, 11 days from today. These reports indicate that the Islamic government is extremely terrified by the possibility of such a rebellion. With its repeated messages to opposition groups, it is trying to prevent their attacks.

The regime's other concern is the people's vast nonparticipation in these elections, hence Behzad Nabavi's humble call to combatant organizations, including the Mojahedin-e Khalq, to come to terms with the government. In his messages he promises that the way back is open, but he does not know that his futile efforts are in vain since the freedom fighters of this country will not stop before achieving final victory.

2 Businessmen Arrested

GF141450 Paris AFP in English 1429 GMT 14 Jul 81

[Excerpt] Tehran, 14 July (AFP)--The execution of two top Iranian businessmen here has been interpreted by observers as an extension of the Islamic regime's crackdown on the leftist opposition to include nationalist groupings as well.

With an election to replace ousted President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr just 10 days off, wealthy bazaar merchants Karim Dastmalchi and Ahmad Javaherian were accused of "counterrevolutionary and subversive activities and relations with deviationists abroad," the Tehran TIMES reported.

The newspaper said that the two "notorious capitalists" had also been charged with participating in recent distrubances at the bazaar, organizing illegal demonstrations under the banner of the National Front, giving financial aid to counterrevolutionary groups and slandering the Islamic regime.

According to the TIMES, Mr Dastmalchi was a known supporter of Mr Bani-Sadr and was responsible for distributing an underground newspaper called ARASH, the organ of a group known as the Liberation Army.

As for Mr Javaherian, according to the TIMES he had given support to the People's Mojahedin (Islamic left) and Peykar (Marxist-Leninist) groups.

The execution of the bazaar merchants was announced less than 24 hours after the arrest on Sunday of a leading member of the nationalist party Mellat-e Iran, Dr Takmil Homayun, and three other party militants on charges of aiding the deposed ex-president to go into hiding.

Meanwhile, the press reported that four "monarchists" were arrested yesterday but has yet to indicate the charges against them. According to observers, the roundup of opponents of Iran's Islamic rulers is likely to continue through the presidential poll scheduled for 24 July.

Radio Iran Predicts Strikes

NC150653 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 14 Jul 81

[Text] Karim Kastmalchi was executed on Khomeyni's orders--the famous businessman and one of the main elements in bringing Khomeyni's regime to power by giving extensive financial aid. Reports from Tehran indicate that Karim Dastmalchi had gradually turned away from Khomeyni and joined opponents because of the terrible crimes committed by Khomeyni and his clique, who have destroyed Iran. Ruhollah Khomeyni does not heed criticism and does not tolerate the least obstacle in the way of absolute dictatorship and, therefore, issued orders for his execution.

Reports state that the murder of Karim Dastmalchi has seriously aggravated the bazaar situation and that the bazaaris are enraged. It is said that preparations are being made for strikes in the Tehran, Mashhad, Tabriz, Esfahan and Shiraz bazaars and that these strikes will probably spread throughout the country. The reports also state that the bazaaris are planning massive demonstrations to protest the regime's crimes and executions.

BANI-SADR'S FORMER GUARDS ORDERED TO TURN IN ARMS

LD141734 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 14 Jul 81

[Statement issued 14 July by the Islamic revolution prosecutor for the armed forces]

[Text] In His exalted name. We hereby inform all those individuals who in the capacity of guards for the deposed president have any governmental weapons, ammunition or any other military or state equipment in their possession that within 5 days from tomorrow, 15 July, they are dutybound to hand in all these items, which belong to the arsenal of the Muslims, to the armed forces' Islamic revolution prosecutor's office in Qasr Square. It is clear that if they disobey this order they will be prosecuted.

RAFSANJANI ON ELECTIONS, PARTY ACTIVITIES

LD142000 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 14 Jul 81

[Interview granted by Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani to a Central News Bureau correspondent on 14 July--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr Rafsanjani, the approval of the legal bill concerning parties was one of the basic works of the Majlis which, thanks to God, was carried out. Please tell us how effective could the implementation of this law be and how could it satisfy the needs of the country?

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. One of the things which we had promised and which we have now carried out is the law concerning the parties. This has formed the foundation of the political movement of the country in one dimension. In my view, despite the fact that this bill was discussed during an emotional period, it was discussed and approved in a very fair way and without being affected by the present climate. It has given freedom to all groups and parties to carry out their activities in any way they wish within the framework of the law. It has given them the right to obtain a license without forcing them to do so. It has given them legal status if they are so inclined. There were even some suggestions made in the Majlis to impose some limitations on the activities of the parties, but, due to its freedom-loving conscience, the Majlis did not accept those proposals. According to this law, any group that wishes to engage in healthy activities will be allowed to do so within the framework of the Constitution. If the people are not biased, I do not think they will be able to find any reason for having illegal, underground and secret activities.

[Question] My next question is about the elections for the Majlis management board which I think should be held in the near future. When will these elections be held and will you again be a candidate?

[Answer] The elections should be held in the near future. The period of the office of the present management board comes to an end on 19 or 20 July and the elections should be held by that time. I think that if the budget bill is completed this week the elections will be held before the end of the week. Personally, of course, I have not given up my candidacy and most probably will be a candiate; but I have not taken a firm decision. I will do so either today or tomorrow.

[Question] In connection with the nonparticipation of a number of deputies in the Majlis sessions and the fact that their constituencies have asked for their dismissal--what will be done about them?

[Answer] This is an important matter and we should pay attention to it. Of course, concerning those who do not attend the Majlis sessions we should think of something concerning them. Their positions cannot be vacant forever and we could not force them to attend whenever they did not desire to do so. We should think of a legal way of dealing with them; however, we have a topical problem: Following the issue of Bani-Sadr's dismissal, in most cities emotions have been aroused about those whom the people regarded as his supporters or the people have objected to their positions regarding the line of the imam. There have been a number of marches, and people have sent us a number of petitions expecting us to take a decision regarding these people who supported Bani-Sadr.

I should say that this method of dealing with the Majlis deputies is not correct. A person who has been elected a deputy by the legal votes of the people is a deputy and we do not have a law providing for the dismissal of a person like that. So long as a person is a deputy, he should be free. If a deputy is pressured to explain why he has voted in a certain way this would mean that the deputy would be deprived of his freedom to vote; this would have an improper effect in the Majlis as well as weakening the prestige of the deputies. One of the special characteristics of this Majlis is that we have thus far allowed the opposition deputies to express their views.

Even at the last moment when Mr Ghazanfar Pur wanted to enter the discussion in a general way, he came to the Majlis and read Bani-Sadr's statement from the Majlis podium and then ran away with Mr Salamatian. We have not seen them since. Of course, they thought they would create a crisis in the country by reading this statement. This podium is free and we wish the freedom of the deputies to be respected. The Constitution also says that the deputies should not be prosecuted for performing their duties as deputies. This is also the source of the prestige of the Majlis. Therefore, while [words indistinct] because the people are interested in the fate of their thoughts and their aspirations, yet I am not in favor of this method. Of course, on the other hand, I remind the deputies that just because there issues have not been raised in the Constitution it is not possible for them to misuse this fact and at times deny the Majlis a quorum through their absence. This practice is not correct and hopefully in the future we will not see it being used. The people should also have respect for the personality and the right of the deputies to [words indistinct].

[Question] At the moment, one of the most important issues in the country is the presidential election as well as the Islamic Consultative Assembly. Please tell us whether these elections have any special importance and whether those Majlis deputies who have announced their candidacy for presidency can continue their work or whether there is any legal complication. Should they resign now or later? What is the legal position?

[Answer] In answer to your first question about the importance of the presidential election, it is clear that it is very important, because it elects the No 2 man in the country. We are electing a person who is responsible for proposing and approving the government and the members of the Cabinet, apart from other positions, and who is also a member of the Supreme Defense Council and has certain other rights. The people should attach the greatest importance to this important issue. They should not be indifferent and should know that their votes for president are the best evidence of their interest in their country and the fate of their country. They should take an interest, vote and express their view.

Concerning the deputies who have announced their candidacy for presidency, there is nothing against a person announcing his candidacy for taking part in the elections. At the moment, there is no need for them to resign. Of course, if a person was a deputy and was elected president, he should resign.

However, as long as he has not been elected, he can be a deputy and candidate in the same way that the prime minister or even the president can take part in the elections for the second term while still president. Therefore, it is necessary for them to resign when it is made clear that they will not be able to hold two posts.

[Question] As to the last question, I would like to know what will happen when one of the candidates for the presidency is elected. Who will fill the time gap and who will be in charge of the presidential duties--the Provisional Presidential Council or the elected person--from the time that the person is elected until the time that the leader [Khomeyni] issues his decree?

[Answer] This has not been clearly set out in the Constitution, but it is clear that the Provisional Presidential Council will be in charge because as long as the leader has not confirmed the president the elected person is not, in fact, president. His duties and rights start from the time he has been confirmed. Therefore, before his confirmation the Provisional Presidential Council will be in charge.

NVOI CRITICIZES CRITERIA FOR PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY

TA142113 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 14 Jul 81

[Unattributed commentary: "Let Us Set Loyalty and Commitment to the Revolution as the Criterion"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: As you are aware, during a radio interview, Mr Jannati, spokesman of the Council of Guardians, announced the view of the Council of Guardians regarding the candidates for the post of presidency. He pointed out that from among 71 persons who had placed themselves as candidates for the post of president the Council of Guardians had found only 4 persons competent to hold this post. Mr Jannati analyzed the criterion and basis that the Council of Guardians had set for its review and decision on those who held the qualifications to be candidates for the post of president and added that the next president should first of all be religious--not only should he believe in religion, but also practice it, and he should not act contrary to his beliefs. Secondly, he should be aware of political matters so that he could give his views on foreign and domestic policy problems. Mr Jannati added that a presidential candidate should be a good administrator, should have a clean record and should be trustworthy and pious.

As you can see, only those who have the religious qualifications required by the officials can become presidential candidates. It seems that such a criterion and basis, merely being religious, cannot secure the demands arising from the glorious revolution of the nation and its fundamental content, the imam's popular and anti-imperialist line. You ask why? It is appropriate that we consider the content of our nation's revolution and the distinct lines of this revolution and of the imam.

The Iranian revolution was not staged so that a Constitution without a shah would replace a constitution with a shah. If this had been the case there would not have been any quarrel with the railroading liberals and supporters of the imperial regime. The Iranian people did not stage a revolution so that the plundering domination of imperialism, led by U.S. imperialism, would be preserved in our country in another form. If this had been the case, no difference would have arisen between the people and the devoted supporters of the United States and its allies. The people did not stage a revolution so that the authority and plundering domination and exploitation of a handful of dependent capitalists and big landowners would be stabilized over the million-strong masses, and so that the same class differences and the decadent life full of corruption by the nobility would continue in society. If this had been the case the issue of the hut dwellers and the palace dwellers would not have arisen and the wolf and the sheep would have lived under the so-called banner of justice and fairness.

The people did not stage a revolution so that fanaticism, oppression and superficiality would rule over their soul and conscience in another form; rather they demanded and continue to demand that creativity, freedom of conscience, guidance, persuasion and scientific logic should form the basic foundation for the exchange of different opinions and views.

Thus, if we wish to summarize the distinct line of the revolution or the line of the imam in a few words, it is: Irreconcilable struggle for terminating the domination of imperialism, led by U.S. imperialism; putting an end to the political, military, economic and cultural influence of imperialism; putting an end to the evil domination of big landowners and dependent capitalists and to the despotic government supported by them and to the corruption arising from this government; destroying class differences and securing the legitimate rights of the toiling classes or of the million-strong masses and the deprivations arising from these rights; respecting the political union and social rights of these classes and strata; creating the possibilities and potentials for the creative growth of talents; and putting an end to all kinds of oppression, discrimination and law breaking.

In short, these are the basic lines of the revolution and the imam. Can one defend this line merely by having a religious background? The answer to this question is negative. Becasue so far no one can claim that, for example, the deposed and fugitive Bani-Sadr was not religious or did not believe in or practice the religion. For the same reason, so far no one in our country can claim that, for example, Mr Raja'i is more religious or a better believer than some of the great eminences who oppose the popular and anti-imperialist line. There are many persons in our homeland believing in religion who have a record of political activity in the past and who have political views, but their appraisal and views about this or that acute state problem are not on the basis of religious beliefs but on the basis of their class attachments. Who can claim that Mr Bazargan is not a Muslim, or that he does not believe in Islam and does not have views on state issues? However, all are aware that this same Mr Bazargan and the liberals are in the line opposite the revolution and the imam and, incidentally, justify all their opposing views with those same religious standards.

During the more than 2 years which have passed since our revolution, all the revolutionary forces committed to the revolution have repeatedly said on the basis of logic and practical evidence that the criterion for supporting the revolution and its gains and loyalty to the line of the revolution and the imam, as experience has shown, is not merely being religious. Unfortunately, up to now high-ranking members of the revolutionary authority have not paid the slightest heed to these reminders of the true forces of the revolution. This very lack of attention to this undeniable fact has rendered and continues to render a great deal of damage to the gains of the revolution. Such an attitude to state affairs, whether arising from superficiality and fanaticism or from obstinacy and stubbornness, causes the weakening of the steadfastness front and transforms the feature of our nation's popular, anti-imperialist and Islamic revolution.

MUSAVI GIVES PRESS CONFERENCE ON FOREIGN POLICY

LD141334 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 14 Jul 81

[Text] The Central News Bureau reports that Mr Hoseyn Musavi, minister of foreign affairs, attended a press conference this morning, also attended by domestic correspondents, and answered their questions on various aspects of foreign policy.

When asked about the struggle against the superpowers of East and West, and to which he gives priority, he said: In Iran the slogan of "Death to America!" is virtually the same as that of "Death to communism!" We shall destroy any base of the Eastern superpower as we would any other oppressive powers in our country.

But because of more than 50 years of Western rule by the United States, traces of the American system of values have crept into our political and social thoughts and nature; in order to expel America we must make a deeper and more extensive effort. From a political viewpoint the United States has failed in our country, but it is still present from a cultural viewpoint. Becasue of its rule of so many years, it is necessary for us to continue the fight against America. But, in our country opposition to communism and Marxism is a general belief, and could not turn into a great power [as heard].

When asked about the fact that recently Iraq has pressured Kuwait to lease Bubiyan Island to it for 99 years, the minister of foreign affairs said: In my opinion, Kuwait will not yield to political blackmail. If such a thing were to happen, it would be confronting the Islamic revolution and would suffer the same fate as Iraq. We hope tnat Kuwait will not yield. Becasue the U.S. consul was deported from Kuwait yesterday, Kuwait's existence in the region will be better safeguarded.

One of the correspondents asked why three South Korean diplomats were deported from Iran. The minister of foreign affairs replied: We cannot tolerate any act outside our own terms *and standards. This applies not only to South Korea. If intelligence incitement [tahrikat-e* ettela'ati] were to exist, we would confront it [as heard].

Regarding aid to liberation movements and Jerusalem Day, the minister of foreign affairs said: In connection with aid to liberation movements, the Islamic Republic will not cease to give aid. This aid still continues at present; there should be a center of communications for the continuation of aid. It should have been foreseen for Jerusalem Day but owing to the shortage of time the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will not pursue a specific course.

When asked which government or movement he endorses, Mr Musavi said: With the research and reviews that will be carried out for the interests of the Islamic revolution in other countries, we will clearly declare our precise position regarding each and every country within the next 2-3 months. But, as you know, we have friendly and fraternal relations with Libya, Syria, Algeria and such countries.

Mr Musavi expressed his views on Third World ccuntries, saying: We do not accept the categorization that exists in the world, as such; in our view the world is divided into two categories of oppressed and oppressors; we will treat them on that basis.

The minister of foreign affairs answered our correspondent's questions. We draw your attention to this interview:

[Begin recording] [Question] Mr Musavi, as regards the policy of "Neither East nor West, but the Islamic Republic," would you please tell us what the situation will be concerning our economic relations with the Eastern bloc and Western countries?

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Of course, our economic policy in connection with the Eastern and Western blocs is not determined merely by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, but this ministry can announce the principles according to which these relations should be maintained and can follow up these relations so that these principles are implemented in all our economic relations with the outside world. Basically, in all our economic relations with other countries, we should pay most attention to reducing our dependence and move toward complete independence. This cannot be achieved unless our economic relations with Eastern and Western countries in the past are studied carefully in order to come to some conclusions. We should deeply analyze different aspects of our political and economic dependence, because different aspects of political, economic and cultural dependence are of great improtance. Also, in our contact with the outside world in economic matters we should gradually move toward self-sufficiency.

We should give priority to our relations with Third World, Asian and African countries. It would be in our interest and in the interest of our "Neither East nor West, but the Islamic Republic" policy if we could expand our economic relations with the Third World, with fraternal Muslim countries and nations.

[Question] What are your plans concerning the Islamic Republic's foreign policy?

[Answer] No organized steps have been taken to date to spread the message of the Islamic revolution of Iran all over the world. But this revolution has been so great that its reverberations were felt in the far corners of the world, especially in Islamic countries. I believe that we should be able to show the world the great successes and achievements of our revolution in the last 2 years. In this connection our embassies and the Ministry of Guidance should coordinate their action by publishing books, articles, pamphlets, leaflets, newspapers and the like. This requires a coordinated cultural and political program, and our embassies can play an important role in this respect.

[Question] One of the points which prevented our revolution from being vindicated throughout the world was the lack of politically committed and responsible staff in our embassies or their lack of experience. What measures are you going to take in this respect, and what standards are you going to take into account when choosing political representatives for the Islamic Republic of Iran?

[Answer] It has been mentioned before, and everyone is aware that there should be a fundamental reorganization in our representative missions abroad. The problem is defining this fundamental and basic reorganization to find out what we mean by "reorganization." Basically, as I have said in my recent interviews, the reorganization of our embassies does not merely indicate that staff of those embassies lack the necessary experience. We intend to shift the center of our political activities from Europe and the United States to Asia and Africa, and in accordance with these new objectives we will reorganize our embassies, whether in Europe and the United States or in Asian and African countries. I believe under the circumstances when we face serious difficulties in finding personnel we cannot afford to be choosy. But, despite this we will select those who are popular, who come from the people, who are interested in this revolution, people who have been present on the scene throughout the revolution, who have suffered the pains of the revolution, who have seen the martyrs, who have shouted slogans in the streets together with those who were martyred and their like. We will select those who are sympathetic toward this revolution and who have experienced the revolution. Together with this aspect there is the question of being familiar with and aware of political situations which cannot be ignored. Wherever we send a representative, that person should be familiar with the political situation in that country and international relations.

[Question] Mr Musavi, the issue discussed all over the world at present is the uprising of the colored people in Britain. I would like to ask for your opinion on this issue.

[Answer] The policy pursued by Britain in this respect orginates from the fact that racism is hidden in all of Britain's internal and international affairs. Generally, most European countries and the United States treat racism as an obvious point of their policies. We usually tend to remember the Nazis, the United States or South Africa when there is talk of racism, whereas this is a common issue, and Britain is no exception. The point is that it never had a chance to reveal itself and was not felt, but we are aware that British relations with India and in the Middle East, and other cases were based on their superiority and could not have materialized without a belief in racism and the superiority of whites over other races. What we are witnessing in Britain at present is that the white race is saying that the burden of inflation and unemployment should be carried by colored races, blacks, and people from Pakistan and India, and that the white race should not suffer the least pain or share the burden. Naturally, our nation, believing in Islam and the equality of races, cannot accept such policy, and in accordance with the principle that our revolution should politively respond to all calls for justice we declare our sympathy with all the masses who have risen against racism. [end recording]

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 568

LD141816 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 14 Jul 81

[Communique 568 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. In the war waged by Islam against blasphemy, in the battle between good and evil, in defending the honor and dignity of Islam and the homeland, and in repulsing the acts of aggression by the aggressive Iraqi Ba'thists, the intrepid fighters of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran have carried out the following acts of self-sacrifice on the battlefronts and have inflicted the following losses and casualties on the enemy during the past 24 hours:

Sporadic exchange of fire continued on most of the fronts in the western parts of the country, and the positions of our forces on the Nowsud fronts, the Meymak and Kan-e Sakht heights and west of Paveh came under fire more than on other fronts. In turn, our mighty combatants fiercely retaliated against the fire of the Iraqi forces. In the Tawilah region in Iraq, two enemy ammunition vehicles were set on fire and a large number of their servicemen were either killed or wounded.

The gendarmerie fighters on the Qasr-e Shirin front fiercely retaliated against enemy fire and inflicted casualties and losses on its forces. Yesterday, an Iraqi Muslim civilian gave himself up to our military forces in Sar Dasht and sought asylum. He was warmly welcomed.

On the fronts west of Dezful, exchange of artillery and mortar fire continued as before; as a result of our ground forces, fire, enemy activities were neutralized and their fire was silenced. Three ammunition dumps belonging to the Iraqi forces were set on fire and one of their tanks and another vehicle were damaged. By penetrating the enemy's positions, our combatants on these fronts are continually dealing effective blows at the enemy forces. Operations aimed at the annihilation and destruction of the enemy in the Ahvaz region continue to rage, while our forces enjoy firepower superiority. The artillery and mortar fire of our combatants in that region does not give the enemy a moment's peace. They continuously subject the enemy forces to their heavy fire, so much so that yesterday they destroyed three Iraqi Army tanks and destroyed innumerable servicemen and large quantities of their equipment and ammunition.

This morning a section of Ahvaz became the target of the aggressive Iraqi Army's artillery, and a number of our dear compatriots in Ahvaz were either martyred or wounded; a certain amount of damage was inflicted.

Yesterday morning, the self-sacrificing combatants of the armed forces, together with the rest of the popular forces on one of the fronts in the Susangerd region, repulsed a penetration by the aggressive forces of the Iraqi Army and crushed them. Eleven Iraqi servicemen were captured and about 40 were killed. The following equipment was captured from them: 11 machineguns and Kalashnikov rifles, 3 RPG-7's, 3 radios and 20 handgrenades. On another front in that region, the heroes of the ground forces neutralized another attack and dealt heavy blows at enemy forces. The battle and an exchange of fire continued on the Abadan-Khuninshahr front and the enemy suffered the following casualities and losses: the destruction of 10 personnel trenches and foxholes, 3 ammunition dumps, 1 truck, 5 bunkers and observation posts, and 10 machinegun and rock-launcher emplacements and the annihilation of about 14 enemy servicemen.

During the past 24 hours, the oil installations and residential districts in the city of Abadan came under enemy artillery and long-range-weapon fire. Some of the city's installations and people's houses were damaged.

During the past 24 hours, a number of aggressive fighter aircraft of the Iraqi Army, which tried to raid cities in the southern and western parts of the country were met with intense fire from the vigilant defenders of our homeland's skies and were forced to flee.

In the battle on 12 July 1981 seven of the self-sacrificing comrades-in-arms of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran gave up their pure lives and achieved the honor of martyrdom. May God's mercy be upon their pure souls.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

GUARDS CORPS COMMUNIQUE ON RECENT FIGHTING

LD141932 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 14 Jul 81

[Communique issued by the central headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, date not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The crusaders on the path of God are bravely occupying the redoubts of blasphemy and duplicity one after another and, shouting "God is the greatest," are marching forward to success and victory. We hereby bring to your attention a report on recent operations undertaken by the combatants of Islam on the battlefronts of good against evil, as follows:

On the western fronts: On 11 July 1981 thanks to artillery fire by the troops of Islam, who bombarded the region between Halabcheh [in Iraq] and [name indistinct], one vehicle belonging to the forces of blasphemy was destroyed and 25 Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries were killed. On that date a large enemy ammunition dump was also set ablaze, thanks to fire from our heroes. At dawn the same day enemy artillery positions behind (Rawghan) were totally destroyed and also one loader and one vehicle of the forces of blasphemy in the Panjwin region were utterly destroyed. On 12 July one enemy ammunition dump and five squad trenches of the Saddam mercenaries were set ablaze in the Tutmal region and at least 15 enemy servicemen were killed. In the (Qadiyah) region in Iraq, one ammunition dump and one cannon of the infidel enemy were destroyed and, thanks to fire opened by our intrepid fighters, while destroying a number of antipersonnel mines, 20 of Saddam's mercenaries were killed. An exchange of fire between the combatants of Islam and forces of blasphemy continues to rage on the Marivan front, with the forces of Islam enjoying total superiority.

On the southern fronts: Yesterday in the Abadan region, on the Abadan-Mahshahr axis, thanks to mortar fire opened by the revolution guards on enemy positions, one medium-size-weapon emplacement and its crew were destroyed. On the Fayyaziyeh front, too, fire was opened on the positions of the aggressors, and one enemy observation post and one machinegun emplacement together with their crew and one Ba'thist enemy assembly center were utterly destroyed and one ammunition dump of the forces of blasphemy was set ablaze. On 12 July, in the occupied sector of Khuninshahr, thanks to mortar and medium-weapon fire by the Islamic revolution guards, enemy positions were hit and some losses and casualties were inflicted on the Iraqi infidels. During the past 48 hours one of the self-sacrificing combatants of the revolution guards gave up his pure blood, thus attaining the lofty rank of martyrdon. May his soul be exultant and his path full of those who would travel along it.